

Agenda Date: 6/8/09 Agenda Item: VIID

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.nj.gov/bpu/

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

L. GEORGE W. CAMERON, Petitioner) ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION) SETTLEMENT
v.)
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY, Respondent) BPU DOCKET NO. GC08060417U) OAL DOCKET NO. PUC6616-08

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On June 17, 2008, L. George W. Cameron ("Petitioner") filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") requesting a hearing regarding charges of Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("Respondent").

After the filing of Respondent's answer, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for hearing and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. This matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Douglas H. Hurd.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and entered into and signed a Stipulation of Settlement ("Settlement") that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on April 20, 2009, and submitted to the Board on April 24, 2009, to which the Settlement was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Hurd found that the Settlement was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it satisfied the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement, the Respondent has agreed to credit Petitioner's account \$2,500.00. As the application of said credit will still result in an outstanding overdue balance for past electric and gas services rendered by Respondent, Petitioner has agreed that, in addition to paying his monthly electric and gas bills in a timely manner, he will make deferred payment arrangements to pay off the outstanding balance in 10 supplemental payments, or fewer payments if he so chooses. The Settlement

also reflects that Petitioner agrees and understands that he must make timely payment of his electric and gas utility bills as long as he is Respondent's customer, and Respondent has represented that there are no negative credit reports on Petitioner's account as a result of this matter. The parties have further agreed that should Petitioner fail to keep the agreement pertaining to the deferred payment arrangement as set out above, Respondent may exercise its rights under its tariff and the provisions of N.J.A.C. 14:3-3A.1 et seq.

After review of the Initial Decision and the Agreement of the parties, the Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> that, by the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement, the parties have resolved all outstanding contested issues in this matter. Accordingly, the Board <u>HEREBY ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement executed by the parties in their entirety as if fully set forth herein.

DATED:

6/10/09

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F. BUTLER

COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER OSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

ELIZABETH RANDALL

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

Utilities

L. GEORGE W. CAMERON

٧.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

BPU DOCKET NO. GC08060417U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 6616-08

SERVICE LIST

L. George W. Cameron One Brook Drive Burlington, New Jersey 08016

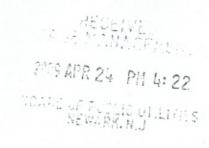
Alexander C. Stern, Esq. PSEG Services Corporation 80 Park Plaza – T5G Newark, New Jersey 07102-4194

Eric Hartsfield, Director Julie Ford-Williams Division of Customer Assistance Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102

Jessica L. Campbell, DAG Division of Law 124 Halsey Street P.O. Box 45029 Newark, New Jersey 07101







INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 6616-08 AGENCY DKT. NO. GC08060417U

L. GEORGE W. CAMERON,

Petitioner,

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PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,

Respondent.

L. George W. Cameron, petitioner, pro se

Alexander C. Stern, Esq., for respondent

Record Closed: April 20, 2009

Decided: April 20, 2009

BEFORE, DOUGLAS H. HURD, ALJ:

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on September 25, 2008, for determination as a contested case, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to -15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 to -13.

The parties have agreed to a settlement and have prepared a Stipulation of Settlement indicating the terms thereof, which is attached and fully incorporated herein.

I have reviewed the record and the terms of settlement and I FIND:

- The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures.
- The settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with the law.

I CONCLUDE that this agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and that the settlement should be approved. I approve the settlement and therefore ORDER that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings be concluded.

I hereby FILE my initial decision with the BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Board of Public Utilities does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five (45) days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

	April	20	2009
DATE	٧	/	(

DOUGLAS H. HURD, ALJ

Receipt Acknowledged

1/21/09 DATE

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

APR 2 2 2009

Mailed to Parties:

DATE

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

/jfk

STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

L. George W. Cameron)
) BPU DOCKET NO. GCU8060417LL) OAL DOCKET NO. PUC06616-2008S
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Petitioner,)
	GFICE OF ADIAN LAN
v.	,
711.0 . 71) STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT
Public Service Electric & Gas Company)
Respondent.).

On or about June 26, 2008, Petitioner filed the above-referenced billing dispute. Public Service Electric & Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") filed an answer to the petition and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBP(I" or "Board") transmitted the matter to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") as a contested case for adjudication.

In the interests of resolving this matter amicably and to avoid further delay and costs to the party's, the parties hereto agreed to settle this matter in accordance with the following terms:

- Although not agreeing with the merits of the allegations expressed in the Petition, PSE&G agrees to credit Petitioner's account \$2,500.00.
- After application of the \$2,500.00 bill credit referenced in paragraph 1,
 Petitioner acknowledges that there will still be an outstanding overdue balance on the account owed to PSE&O for past electric and gas service rendered by PSE&O.
- Petitioner agrees to timely pay his PSE&G bills for electric and gas service, as well as to enter into a deferred payment arrangement with PSE&G to pay off any outstanding balance due at the time of settlement.
- 4. Petitioner agrees to make ten (10) supplemental payments in addition to monthly utility bills commencing with the first bill received after the ALJ's approval of this Stipulation. Petitioner is not foreclosed from paying off any outstanding balance due prior to the ten (10) month deferred payment period allotted.
- 5. If Petitioner fails to keep the agreement as set forth in the deferred payment arrangement established in paragraph 4 above, PSE&G may exercise its authority in accordance with its tariff and the provisions of N.J.A.C. 14:3-3A.1 et seq.

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- 6. In addition to payments under the deferred payment arrangement established in paragraph 4, Petitioner agrees and understands that he must make timely payment of PSE&G monthly utility bills for utility service so long as he remains a PSE&G customer.
- PSE&G represents that there are no negative credit reports on Petitioner's account as a result of this matter.
- This agreement is in full settlement of the Petition filed by Petitioner on or about June 26, 2008.
- 9. The undersigned agree that this Settlement contains mutually balancing and interdependent provisions and is intended to be accepted and approved in its entirety. In the event any particular aspect of this Settlement is not accepted and approved by the Board or modified by the Board, the party that is adversely affected by the modification can either accept the modification or declare this Settlement to be null and void, and the parties shall be placed in the same position that they were in immediately prior to its execution.

PSEG SERVICES CORPORATION Attorneys for PSE&G

DATED: 4-14-09

By: thex arder C. Stern

Alexander C. Stern, Esq.

Assistant General Regulatory Counsel

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS CO.

DATED: 4/15/09

Edward B. Sullivan

Manager of Customer Operations

DATED: 4/14/09

L. George W. Cameron, Petitioner